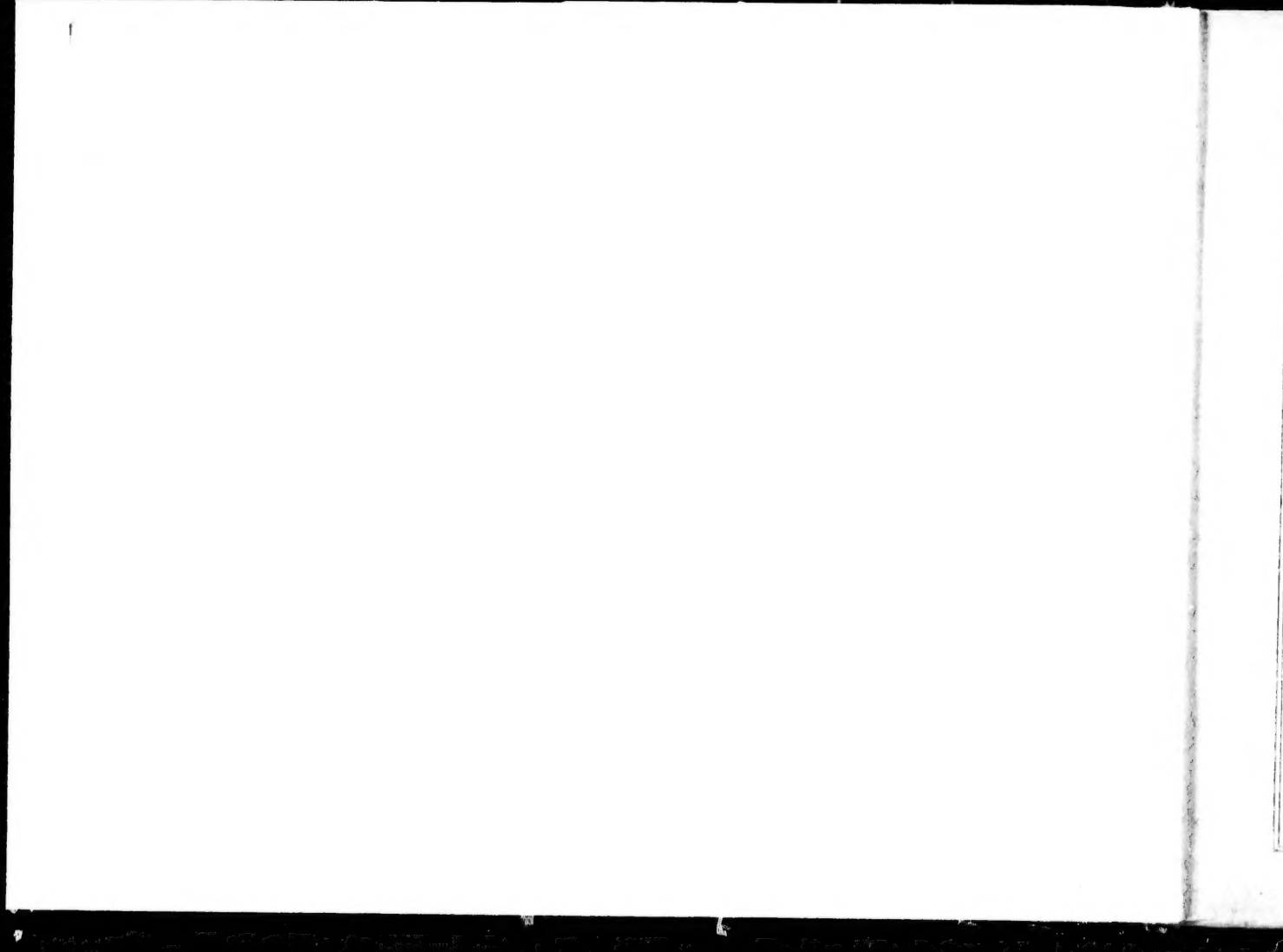




THE
LAND PROSPECTOR'S
MANUAL & FIELD-BOOK

FOR

*The Use of Intending Settlers taking up Lands in Manitoba,
and the North-West Territories of Canada*

BY

CAPT. C. W. ALLEN.

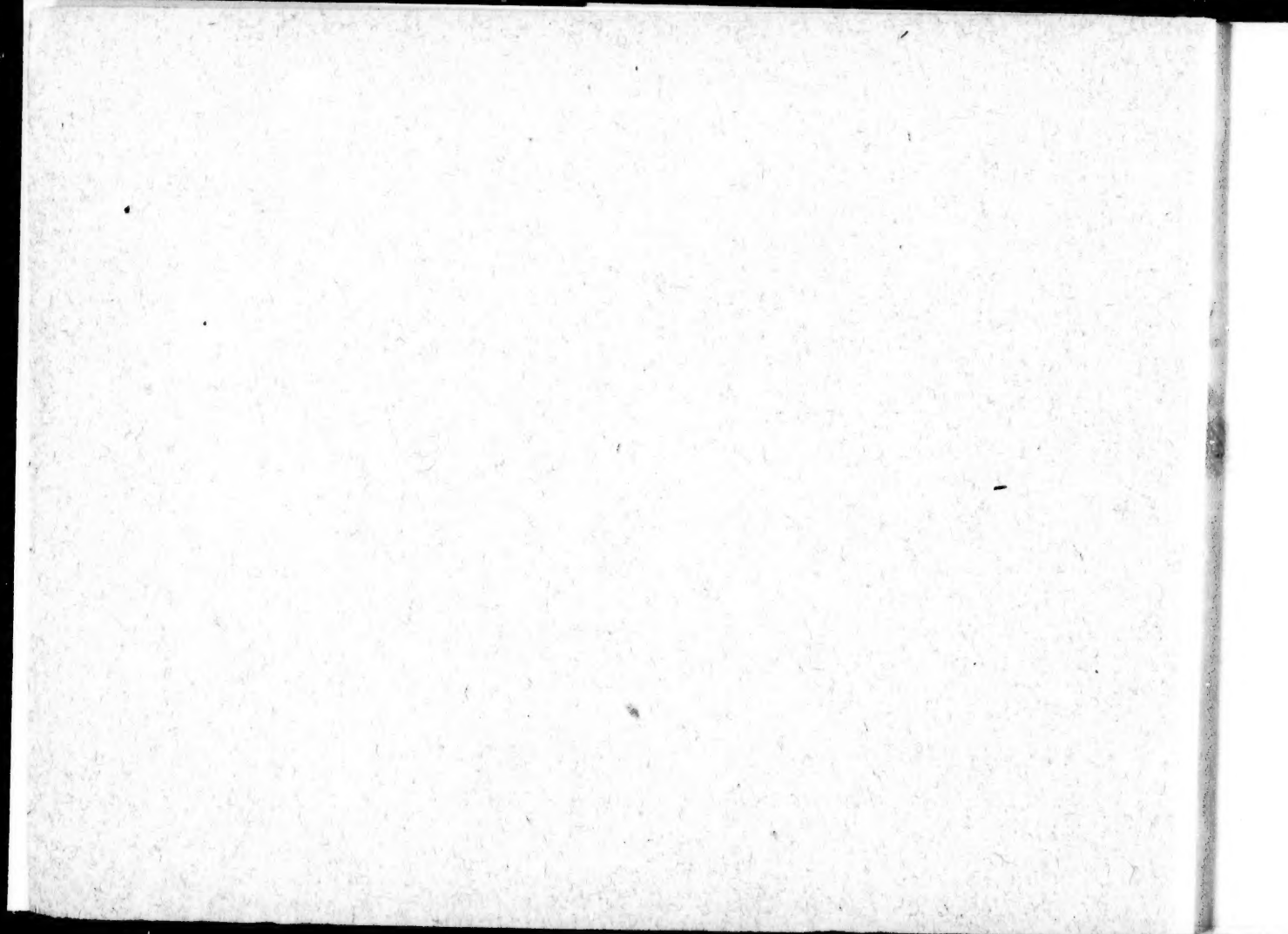
Fifth Edition.

Published by authority of the Hon. the Minister of the Interior.

OTTAWA:

PRINTED BY BROWN CHAMBERLIN, PRINTER TO THE QUEEN'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY.

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PART I.

HOW TO PROSPECT FOR LAND.

COMPOSITION OF THE PARTY—SUGGESTIONS AS TO OUTFIT—ESSENTIAL INFORMATION—HOW TO FIND ANY PARTICULAR SECTION—A SIMPLE METHOD OF LOCATING CORNERS ON UNSURVEYED LINES.

COMPOSITION OF THE PARTY.

THE object of a trip on the prairie, for the purpose of selecting lands to homestead or purchase, can be attained with much more satisfaction and success by the organization of a small party composed of from two to four persons. If the number exceeds the latter figure, disputes are apt to arise, through conflict of interests, when the choice of locations has to be arrived at. Two companions may get along very well; but, in following up lines, setting off right angles, and in some other situations, the presence of at least three persons will be found to facilitate operations. In case of a break-down, getting "stuck" in a swamp or coulee, or the occurrence of any other contingency of prairie travel, it will be found that "many hands make light work" in overcoming the difficulty. The expense of such an expedition, moreover, will fall much lighter upon the individual if shared *per capita* among several explorers participating in the use of a joint outfit.*

* In the North-West the term "outfit" is understood as including not only the transport accommodation and equipment of a party, but even the commercial stock in trade of a mercantile venture.

SUGGESTIONS AS TO OUTFIT.

The necessary articles with which to equip a party of Land Prospectors are but few in number, and, with the exception of means of transportation, very inexpensive. The quantity of provisions to be taken along must be determined (1), by the number of the party; (2), by the length of time it is expected the trip will last; and (3), by the possibility of obtaining further supplies while in the field.

Land hunters will find it to their great advantage, no matter what may be their transportation facilities, to travel on such an excursion as lightly laden as possible, for, by duly observing this consideration, they will be able to pass without check over rough country and through bad places, which would be altogether impossible if they carried much freight.

The most convenient way, if the Prospectors do not already possess teams of their own, will be for them to purchase or hire a waggon (if a light one, all the better) drawn by a pair of native ponies. As these hardy animals thrive on the grass of the prairie meadows, the necessity for the party carrying with them oats or other forage may be obviated.

An alternative plan, almost equally good and rather less expensive, would be to purchase or hire a Red River cart (drawn either by ox * or native pony), to carry the tent, blankets, and provisions of the party, the land-hunters themselves going afoot. A party so provided may travel slowly, it is true; but, like the snail, they will carry their home along with them, and they can go anywhere.

An extra horse, with saddle and bridle, † will be found a useful adjunct to the outfit, and such should be equipped with breast-band and rope-traces, so arranged, like those worn by the charger of a non-commissioned officer of field artillery, that the animal can be readily attached to the vehicle, should aid be necessary to enable it to pass over an awkward spot.

The following lists include the requisites for practical and economical Prospectors; and, though every article mentioned may not by some be deemed indispensable, these catalogues will, no doubt, be found of assistance to novices organizing such an expedition for the first time:—

Party Outfit.—A general map of the portion of Manitoba, or of the North-West Territories, to be

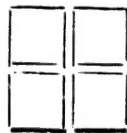
* Oxen in the North-West are almost invariably put in harness, a more efficient and humane method of attaching them to the vehicle than the old-fashioned system of yoking.

† Much waste of time may be prevented, when on the prairie, both in selecting trails, as well as in the searching for mounds and planting of flags, if a mounted member of the party undertakes these useful duties. A man on horseback obtains such a much better view of the country than do those who go afoot, and his movements should be so much quicker.

visited; a telescope or binocular field-glass; a pocket compass; * a measuring tape or chain; a cross-staff; † three light rods, 8 or 10-ft. long, all the better if iron-shod, with a strip of white calico as a flag for each; a tent (size according to number of party), provided with poles and pegs, if for prairie use; a camp kettle; a frying-pan; a teapot; an axe; a butcher's knife; a lantern; a scythe and whetstone; ‡ an auger; hobbles, a halter, and a bell §

* It should be remembered that the needle of the magnetic compass does not point exactly to the true north, the amount of the variation being different according to locality. In the North-West the true north is from 14 degrees, in Manitoba, to 24 degrees, near the Rocky Mountains, west of the direction in which the needle points. An approximate allowance should, therefore, be made.

† A "cross-staff," which is a simple, but most useful implement with which to perform a rough survey, is very easy of construction, being a piece of board, say two inches in thickness, with two grooves sawn across the surface at right angles to each other. This is then firmly screwed upon a staff about five feet long, the foot of which should be sharpened to a point and also be iron-shod if convenient. The head of a cross-staff may be either square or circular; but one of the latter form has a better look, and is less liable to damage in travelling. The length of the grooves need not exceed six or eight inches.



HEAD OF A
CROSS-STAFF.

‡ When mosquitoes are very troublesome, animals will not leave the "smudge," as a smoke-fire is called, to graze, and it may be necessary to cut grass for them.

§ The use of bells will obviate much trouble in finding animals feeding in a country where there are "bluffs" or patches of woods.

for each strong stove * absolute closed i while tr use.

Groceries, sugar, bacon, soap, ca

Person should s PROSPER knife, for cup; a c bars; a w a black red pen buffalo r One o during th

When as to th

* A stove wife during prairie, as inside of a comfort, v tolerable.

† These morning, v be discard

for each animal; 50 feet of one-inch rope; a spade; strong cord; nails and screws. N.B.—A coal-oil stove* will be found very useful in a prairie region absolutely destitute of wood. It should, however, be enclosed in a small box that will preserve it from injury while travelling, and protect it from the wind when in use.

Groceries and Provisions.—Flour, tea or coffee, sugar, pepper, salt, mustard, molasses, dried apples, bacon, potatoes or beans, biscuits, coal-oil, matches, soap, candles, and baking powder.

Personal Requisites.—Each member of the party should supply himself with a copy of the "THE LAND PROSPECTOR'S MANUAL AND FIELD-BOOK;" also a knife, fork, and spoon, a tin plate, and a pint drinking-cup; a change of shirt, drawers, and socks; mosquito bars; a waterproof coat, poncho, or sheet; long boots;† a black lead (or indelible) pencil, and a blue-and-red pencil. Early in spring, or late in the fall, a buffalo robe will be found very desirable.

One or two guns among the party would provide, during the proper seasons, variety for the bill of fare.

ESSENTIAL INFORMATION.

When the Prospectors have made up their minds as to the particular part of the country they will

* A stove of this kind will be found invaluable by a settler's wife during the preliminary stages of establishing a home on the prairie, as, owing to its non-radiation of heat, it can be used inside of a shanty having no partitions, without causing discomfort, where any other kind of stove would be found intolerable.

† These will be found very comfortable for wear in the early morning, when the long grass is heavy with dew. They may be discarded later in the day.

explore in search of farms to suit their requirements, they should ascertain in which Land District the locality is situate, and proceed to the office of the "Local Agent" in charge, who is the official representative of the Dominion Lands Branch of the Department of the Interior.

Here they will be furnished, free of cost, with all the information the books contain calculated to assist the would-be settler or purchaser in making his selection with the least possible difficulty and loss of time.* The following suggestions are offered as indicating the general information that should be obtained of a Local Agent.

1. As to the most promising localities the District contains, having regard to the primary requisites, viz., rich land, sufficiency of timber, and good water.

2. Should all of these desiderata not be attainable in any locality that appears attractive, it would be important to ascertain what prospect there would be of making up any particular deficiency. For instance, whether wood-lots would be obtainable if the country it is purposed to locate in should be open prairie, or what results would be likely to attend the sinking of wells, if there be no permanent fresh water lakes, ponds, or streams in the locality.

* One or more "land guides" are attached to each Dominion Lands Office to assist intending settlers to find the localities they wish to inspect; but their services are chiefly required for conducting large parties of immigrants arriving from Europe. With the assistance of this MANUAL, small parties, composed of men of ordinary intelligence and perseverance, can carry out their purpose more satisfactorily "on their own hook."

3. Present facilities for reaching the townships under enquiry should be ascertained, and the prospects of securing improved means of transportation and communication in the near future might also be taken into consideration.

After deciding in what particular townships they will pursue their search, the Prospectors should obtain the following specific information in regard to them :—

1. As to which quarter-sections have already been entered for by other parties, all of which should be carefully crossed off on one of the blank township diagrams in the Appendix. These being closed against further entry (unless in case of cancellation on account of non-fulfilment of conditions), the unmarked quarter-sections will show at a glance all the lands in the township that it is necessary to examine. The diagram itself exhibits in blank the even-numbered sections, which are the sections available for homesteading or pre-emption, the remainder being only obtainable by *purchase*—from the Government, the Canadian Pacific Railway Company, the Hudson's Bay Company, or private proprietors.

2. As to the characteristics of the locality. The Local Agent, on request, will show to an applicant a copy of the official map of the survey of any particular township, drawn on a scale of two inches to the mile. From this the Prospector may note upon a blank section-diagram (also in the Appendix) any features distinguishing the quarter-sections still open for entry. The points to be specially observed and marked down are as follow :—

(a) The quality of the soil

(b) Whether the land is prairie, timbered, wet, or swampy.

(c) The course of any creek, and the position of any lake or pond (fresh, salt, or alkaline), not exhibited on the general map.

(d) The situation of swamp or hay lands.

(e) The location of such timber or brush as there may be.

(f) The direction of any road or trail traversing the land.

As most Prospectors are not likely to be provided with the means of sketching such features on the blank diagrams in all the ordinary colours employed in topography, the following system is suggested as practically sufficient for enquirers who have provided themselves with a blue-and-red pencil as well as the ordinary black-lead one :—

Leave open prairie (*blank*) blank.

Show streams, lakes, and ponds (*blue*) in blue.

„ swamps (*green dots on yellow ground*) by dotting in with blue.

„ wooded land (*green*) in red.

„ scrub or brush (*in green dots*) by dotting in with red.

„ brûlé, or wooded land burnt over (*light brown*) in blue, dotted over with red.

„ ridges or hills, by sketching them in with black.

„ roads or trails, by dotting them in with black.

N.B.—The colours in italics given above are those employed in the ordinary topography of such maps as the Prospectors will examine at any Land Office.

Having thus noted the principal features on the blank diagrams of their field-books, the Prospectors should finally seek information as to the best trail to follow, in order to reach the townships they purpose examining, and this should be sketched down on the general map.

HOW TO FIND A PARTICULAR SECTION.

Upon nearing the locality to be explored, the party should keep on the look-out for a "mound." So soon as one is perceived, an examination of the marks upon the post in its centre (See Diagram No. V.) will acquaint the Prospectors with the exact situation in which they then stand. Any person who comprehends the meaning of the inscriptions on township or section corner-posts cannot possibly get lost within the surveyed districts of the North-West, and, with or without the aid of a compass, he should experience little difficulty in keeping on the course he wishes to follow.

Having at last reached such a mound in immediate proximity to one of the sections it is desired to examine, in order to find the actual place it is only necessary to follow up one of the surveyed lines leading in the proper direction, which may be readily done by the following method: Let two members of the party be designated "A" and "B." Let A plant the cross-staff against the post in the centre of the mound, and, by use of the pocket-compass and allowing for the variation, set one of the grooves in the direction of north and south. Then let B, on horse-back, start off in the required direction (whether north, south, east, or west), A directing him by motions, so that he proceeds on a correct course. When he has gone about half-a-mile, he should be able to find the

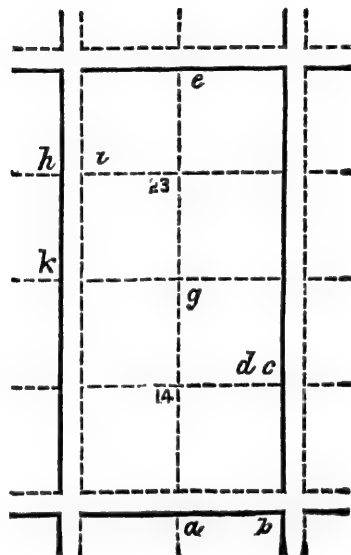
mound erected at the quarter-section corner (marked with the sign "4" only). Here he may plant his flag. Two points being thus absolutely established, by placing the cross-staff on either of them, and aligning one of its grooves on the flag planted upon the other, lines can be set off, either north-and-south or east-and-west, with almost perfect accuracy. All that is necessary is for A to glance through the groove pointing in the particular direction required for him to be able to direct B upon a true course any distance within the range of his sight.

HOW TO LOCATE CORNERS ON UNSURVEYED LINES.

To ascertain the true centre of any section, or the position of a section or quarter-section corner on any unsurveyed line, is a very simple matter with the aid of the cross-staff, by adopting the following method:—

To find the centre of Section 14: Let B plant one flag on the mound at *a*, and another on that at *b*; and let A plant the cross-staff at *c*, aligning one of the grooves on the flag at *b*. Then let B plant a third flag a few chains west of *c*, being directed by A through the groove pointing in that direction; and call this fresh point *d*. Finally, let A walk westward, according to the line indicated by the flags at *d* and *e*, until he can not only align those flags through the one groove, but that standing at *a* through the groove pointing south. When this is the case, the point whereon the cross-staff then stands will be the actual centre of the section, and a picket to mark its position thus ascertained may now be driven in.

To find the point *g*, where the unsurveyed lines dividing the two sections intersect, a similar plan



may be followed, by obtaining the requisite bearings from the mounds most convenient.

In order to determine the relative position of any of the corners of sections occurring on the unsurveyed limit of a road allowance, the most ready plan is to plant the cross-staff at the post in the mound immediately opposite the point it is desired to ascertain, and align one of its grooves upon a flag erected on some adjacent mound. The corner to be located may then be measured, in the direction of the other groove, at a distance of one chain. Referring to the diagram, and supposing it is required to locate the north-west corner of the S.W. $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 23: Let B plant a flag on the mound at *k*. A, taking his position by the mound at *h*, having aligned the cross-staff on this flag, will direct B where to plant a second flag at rather more than a chain's length towards the east, by means of the groove pointing in that direction. All that now remains is to measure one chain, from *k* to *i*, and drive in a picket.

PART II.

THE SYSTEM OF SURVEY.

TOWNSHIPS AND RANGES—SECTIONS—SUBDIVISION OF SECTIONS—THE ORDER OF SURVEY—HOW SURVEYED LINES ARE MARKED ON THE GROUND—THE OLD SYSTEM OF SURVEY—LIMITS OF THE DIFFERENT SYSTEMS.

THE SYSTEM OF SURVEY.

UNDER the improved system of survey, now in force, Dominion lands in the North-West Territories are laid off in four-sided "townships," almost square in form, bounded on the east and west sides by lines which are true meridians of longitude (*i.e.* radiating from the North Pole), and on the north and south sides by lines which are chords of the circular parallels of latitude intersecting such meridians.

TOWNSHIPS AND RANGES.

A township measures on its east and west sides, from centre to centre of the road allowances which form its actual boundaries, exactly 483 chains, and on its north and south sides 486 chains, more or less, subject to the deficiency resulting from the convergence or divergence of the meridians, as the case may be, caused by the curvature of the surface of the globe.

Townships are numbered in regular order northwards from the 49th parallel of north latitude, which forms the International Boundary line between the territories of Canada and those of the United States (See Diagram No. I.), and they lie in "ranges" which are numbered in regular succession westward of certain standard north-and-south lines first established, under the name of "principal meridians," which are distinctly set down on all Government maps.* There are also certain ranges lying (and numbered) *east* of the First Principal Meridian, and likewise some townships lying (and numbered) south of the 49th parallel; but these latter are situate east of the Lake of the Woods.

• The First Principal Meridian runs northward from a point on the International Boundary about eleven miles west of the town of Emerson. The Second Principal Meridian is established upon the 102nd meridian of west longitude, passing about thirty miles west of Fort Ellice. The Third, Fourth, and Fifth Principal Meridians are identical with the 106th, 110th, and 114th meridians of longitude respectively.

SECTIONS.

Each township is sub-divided into thirty-six "sections" of 360 acres, or one square mile, more or less (the exact area being, like that of the township itself, subject to the convergence or divergence of meridians), together with certain road allowances, having a width of one chain, on *each* section line running north-and-south, and on *every alternate* section line running east-and-west.

The sections are laid out of the precise width of eighty chains (or eighty-one chains, including the contiguous road allowance) on certain lines running east-and-west, called "base lines;" and the meridians bounding sections are drawn thence, northward and southward, to the depth of two townships, to certain "correction lines." (See Diagram No. I.)

All sections south of a base line will accordingly have their northern and southern boundary lines rather more than eighty chains, while the northern and southern boundaries of sections in the townships laid off north of the same base line will correspondingly measure somewhat less than the normal dimension of eighty chains.

The following diagram serves to exhibit the discrepancies arising from the convergence or divergence of the meridians, though in an exaggerated degree for the purpose of distinct illustration. It will be readily seen that the area of the sections into which the township surveyed north of the base line A B is subdivided, decrease in area the farther from such base line they are situate, while in the case of the sections in the

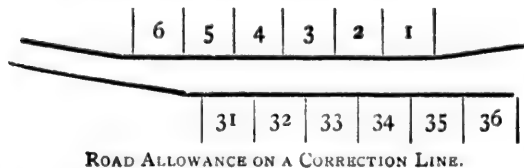
township laid off upon the same base line, but to the south of it, the very reverse is the case.*

	18	17	16	15	14	13	
	7	8	9	10	11	12	
	6	5	4	3	2	1	
A	31	32	33	34	35	36	B
	30	29	28	27	26	25	
	19	20	21	22	23	24	

* Though the above particulars are given in explanation of the system of survey, the discrepancies resulting within the latitudes bounding the Fertile Belt are practically inappreciable to the settler, the difference between the length of the northern and southern boundaries of a township being actually only a few links more or less than a chain, according to the particular township in question; or the difference is only about half a foot between the northern and southern boundaries of a quarter section, a distance of half a mile.

but to the

The survey upon each base line* is carried, northward and southward, for two tiers of townships only. Thus, as four tiers in all are surveyed from each several base line, the meridians forming the eastern and western boundaries of the sections necessarily approach, though they do not exactly meet, each other at a distance of two townships from such base lines. Terminating upon opposite sides of the road allowance, they produce what is technically known as the "jog" resulting from their want of parallelism, which is shown upon the correction lines† already spoken of, and also exhibited in Diagram No. I. The accompanying figure shows in an exaggerated degree how the irregular width of the road allowance on all correction lines results from the same cause.



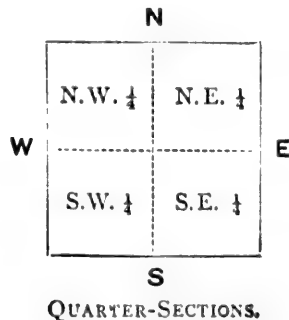
ROAD ALLOWANCE ON A CORRECTION LINE.

* The First Base Line is identical with the 49th parallel of north latitude (the International Boundary). The Second Base Line runs east and west between Townships 4 and 5; the Third between Townships 8 and 9; and so on, northerly, in regular succession, at intervals of every four tiers of townships.

† The First Correction Line is between Townships 2 and 3; the Second, between Townships 6 and 7; the Third, between Townships 10 and 11; and so on, in regular succession, at intervals of four townships.

SUBDIVISION OF SECTIONS.

Each section of a township is subdivided into "quarter-sections," containing 160 acres each (being half a mile square, more or less), as shown in the accompanying diagram; and they are referred to respectively as the N.E. $\frac{1}{4}$, the N.W. $\frac{1}{4}$, the S.E. $\frac{1}{4}$, or the S.W. $\frac{1}{4}$ of the section of which they form part.



QUARTER-SECTIONS.

The terms "half-quarter-section" and "quarter-quarter-section" are legal designations, expressing the quantity of 80 or 40 acres respectively; but, to facilitate the description for letters patent of less than a half-quarter-section, the quarter-sections comprising every separate section are, in accordance with the boundaries of the same as planted in the original survey, supposed to be further subdivided each into four quarter-quarter-sections (of 40 acres each), and

these may be referred to by the numbers as shown on the following diagram of a section so cut up into "legal subdivisions."

	N				
	13	14	15	16	
	12	11	10	9	
W	5	6	7	8	E
	4	3	2	1	
	S				

"LEGAL SUBDIVISIONS" OF A SECTION.

The entry-certificates and letters patent describing wood-lots disposed of by the Government to settlers designate such particular small parcels of land by referring to them as legal subdivisions, numbered as above shown. Wood-lots are generally rectangular, having a narrow front upon a section line.

THE ORDER OF SURVEY.

Previous to the subdivision of Dominion lands into townships, sections, and quarter-sections, the portion of the country to be so surveyed is laid off in "blocks" of sixteen townships each, by projecting the several base lines and meridian lines which are required to form the boundaries of each block. These block surveys are specially arranged for by the Government

in advance of immediate requirements for subdivision into townships, and by this means a general knowledge of the features of the country is first obtained.

The outlines of the townships included within such a block are next surveyed by a different surveyor, whose report extends the knowledge of the locality already in possession of the Department.

Lastly, the townships whose outlines have been thus already defined are subdivided, upon contract, by a third surveyor, who is required to plant upon the ground all the interior posts or other monuments shown in Diagram No. II., and also to set down in his field-notes all facts necessary to a complete topographical report of the country. The returns of these contract surveyors, the accuracy of which is ensured by a system of inspection, constitute a valuable fund of intelligence regarding the soil and general resources of the North-West, which is available for statesmen, investors, or settlers interested in the progress and development of the country.

When the survey of townships progresses so far west that a fresh principal meridian is reached, the fractional townships resulting from the "jog" on the correction lines are not absorbed into the adjoining ranges, but they are allowed to constitute a range of such broken townships. (See Range XXX., Diagram No. 1.)

HOW SURVEY LINES ARE MARKED ON THE GROUND.

The course of every line surveyed in the North-West is marked upon the ground by the planting or erection of such posts, stones, mounds, or other monuments as will serve the temporary purpose of

guiding Prospectors through the country, and which also constitute permanent landmarks to establish the legal boundaries of lands held by different proprietors.*

Only a single row of posts (or other monuments) to indicate the corners of townships, sections, or quarter-sections, is placed on the ground to show the line surveyed, except in the case of correction lines. Such posts (or other monuments) are invariably planted along the *western* limit of the road allowance on all lines running north-and-south, and in the *southern* limit of the road allowance on all lines running east-and-west. It follows, accordingly, that such corner-posts always stand in the north-east corner of the township, section, or quarter-section to which they belong; also, that these single lines of posts govern the relative position of the corners on the opposite sides of the road allowance (or road allowances) on which they stand, whether they be those of adjacent townships, sections, or quarter-sections. (See Diagram No. II.)

On all correction lines, however, the boundaries on *both sides* of the road allowance are planted with monuments indicating the township, section, and quarter-section corners. (See Fig. 3, Diagram No. V.)

The kind of monument employed varies somewhat according to the material available in the locality surveyed; but the position in which all such are

* It is not only mischievous and improper, but in law a felony, to remove, alter, or deface any landmark established by the original surveys of the Government. Settlers should, therefore, never remove such in order to plant a fence or construct a ditch, but conserve the evidences of the true boundaries of their farms with the most jealous care. Land Prospectors also should discountenance any disposition by reckless companions to interfere with the monuments on any pretence.

placed is governed by definite rules, and the inscriptions or marks are all in conformity.

In a *timbered country*, a post three inches square, and showing two feet above ground (See Fig. 2, Diagram No. IV.), is firmly planted at the township or section corner to be indicated, and it bears marks as hereafter described. The post distinguishing a quarter-section corner in such a region is three inches wide, being flattened on two sides, and it stands eighteen inches only above the surface, with the flatted sides at right angles to the line on which it is erected. (See Fig. 1, Diagram No. IV.) In a wooded region where stone abounds, corners are sometimes defined by simple stones, correctly planted and properly marked. (See Fig. 3, Diagram No. IV.)* The position of all corners indicated by simple monuments, such as a post or stone, is further defined by the astronomical bearing and distance therefrom being marked in red chalk upon some adjacent tree, the side of which nearest to the monument is also inscribed with the letters "B. T." cut into the trunk.†

In a *prairie country*, the posts stand in the centre of mounds, generally of earth, thrown up in the form of right-angled pyramids. At the corners of townships these mounds are three feet high, their bases being six feet square; at the corners of sections or quarter-sections the mounds stand 2ft. 6in. high, and their bases are five feet square. In the formation of these mounds the earth is taken from four square pits, each being

* A stone corner is very rarely to be seen in the North-West, the country having generally an alluvial soil of great richness, with no stone whatever.

† All trees adjacent to lines forming boundaries will be found "blazed" on three sides, viz., on those facing the directions in which the line is run, as well as on the side facing such line.

opposite one of the four sides of the mound. (See Fig. 4, Diagram No. IV.) In a prairie country that is also stony the mounds may be built of stones, piled up around the post so as to conform as nearly as possible to the earth mounds in size and shape. (See Fig. 6, Diagram No. IV.)

If a township or other corner falls in a ravine, the bed of a stream, or some other situation where it would be impossible to erect a monument of a permanent character, and should a "bearing tree" not be obtainable, the surveyor indicates the position of such corner by erecting at the nearest suitable spot a "witness-mound." (See Fig. 7, Diagram No. IV.) In this case the mound is in the form of a cone 2 ft. 6 in. high, the base having a diameter of 6 feet. The post in its centre is marked "W. M.," and also inscribed, in red chalk, with the bearing and distance to the corner to be indicated.

The posts in all mounds show at least ten inches above the apex of the same, whether the latter have been built of earth or stones.

On ordinary surveyed lines the posts and mounds are so placed that their angles rest upon the line on which they stand. (See Fig. 2, Diagram No. V.)

On correction lines, however, the posts and mounds are erected square with the line, which passes through the centre of two sides of the mound. (See Fig. 1, Diagram No. V.)

Iron posts, which are placed at every township corner, consist of either iron bars or tubes, driven into the ground with a sledge, and inscribed, by means of a cold chisel, with the necessary marks. The mounds in connection with such monuments form an exception to the general rule, in that they are so

placed that the iron post stands at the northern angle thereof. There is, however, with iron posts the usual difference in respect to monuments on correction lines, the mounds in connection with which are built with their bases facing the cardinal points of the compass, the iron posts being established in the centre of the base of the mound fronting on the road allowance. (See Figs. 1 and 2, Diagram No. V., the letters "a" and "b" showing the position in which iron posts would be planted.)

The letters, marks, and figures on posts and trees are distinctly cut in with a knife or scribing iron; those on iron posts and stone corners, with a cold chisel.

Quarter-section corner posts are simply marked with the conventional sign " $\frac{1}{4}$ " to indicate their character, and bear no inscription showing to what township or range they belong.

Posts or stone monuments indicating all other corners bear sufficient marks to thoroughly indicate the position they are intended to legally establish; and must always be read from the top of the post *downwards*.

On township corners, the upper figure on either side of the post indicates the number of the township which that side of the post faces, and the next figure indicates the range. (See Fig. 4, Diagram No. V. for the corner between Townships 5 and 6, Ranges III. and IV.)

On all other section corners, whether on township lines or in the interior of a township, the numbers of the sections only are to be found on the corresponding faces of three sides of the post; but, in addition to the section number, the number of the township and that

of the range appear on the fourth face, which is invariably the south-west one. (See Figs. 5, 6, and 7, Diagram No. V. for the northerly corner between Sections 34 and 35, Township 5, Range IV.; for the easterly corner between Sections 24 and 25, Township 6, Range IV.; and for the corner between Sections 15, 16, 21, and 22, Township 6, Range VI.)

The posts planted along the correction lines simply exhibit marks to show the numbers of the townships and sections the boundaries of which they form respectively. *Township* corners have the number of the section shown on the west side of the post, and the numbers of township and range on its north side, in cases where the posts stand in the *northern* limit of the road allowance, the letter "R" for "road" alone being marked on the other two sides. (See Fig. 11, Diagram No. V., for the south-east corner of Township 3, Range X.) A correspondingly opposite plan will be found to have been adopted in marking the township corner-posts in the *southern* limit of the road allowance on correction lines. (See Fig. 10, Diagram No. 5, for the north-east corner of Township 6, Range V.) *Section* corner-posts on correction lines have the numbers of the sections on their east and west sides, the letter "R" on the side facing the roadway, and on the fourth side the number of the township and range. (See Figs. 12 & 13, Diagram No. V., for the southerly corner between Sections 3 and 4, Township 7, Range VII., and for the northerly corner between Sections 32 and 33, Township 2, Range VI.)

In ranges numbered from the First Principal Meridian, the letters "E" or "W" are marked on the post after the number of the range, to denote that

it is east or west of that meridian. (See Figs. 8 and 9, Diagram No. V., for the township corner between Townships 5 and 6, Ranges III. and IV., east of the First Principal Meridian, and for the corner between Sections 10, 11, 14, and 15, Township 6, Range IV., west of the First Principal Meridian.)

In 1882 the surveys were pushed far into the prairie regions where no supply of wood for posts existed, and it, therefore, became necessary to furnish the sub-division surveyors with suitable material for monuments in place of wooden posts. Land hunters will accordingly find in such districts an iron tube inserted in corner section mounds. This iron tube carries a square often marked in manner corresponding with the inscriptions placed on posts in other localities. All that is necessary to an accurate reading of the marks is first by consulting a pocket compass to so turn the plate that the inscription of township and range is towards the south-west. Two examples will suffice.

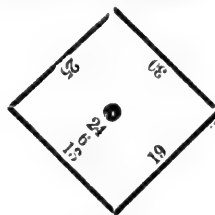


Fig. 1.

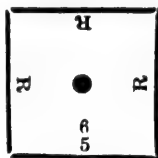


Fig. 2.

In Fig. 1 is given a representation of the marks on the plate at the easterly corner between Sections 24 and 25, Township 6, Range 13 west of the — Meridian. It will be observed that on the south-west side of the

plate are the numbers of the township and range, and the figures are to be read downwards in the following order, viz: section, township and range. Fig. 2 shows how a plate would be marked to indicate the north-east corner of Township 6, Range 5, on a correction line.

THE OLD SYSTEM OF SURVEY.

The system of survey in use previous to the season of 1881 is illustrated by Diagram No. III. It will be observed that a township surveyed on this plan has three roads running east-and-west beyond the number contained in a township surveyed according to the modern system. (See Diagram No. II.) The number of surveyed lines in such a township is accordingly three more than the number run in a township surveyed on the new system, which fact has a special interest for the Land Prospector, inasmuch as there is a difference in the number of mounds to guide him in identifying the position of the particular quarter-section he may be in search of.

A further difference in the two systems, having less practical interest for the land hunter, is that, whereas in the new system the deficiency or surplus arising from the convergence or divergence of meridians is distributed among *all* the sections of a township, under the old system such deficiency or surplus was left in the tier of quarter-sections adjoining the western boundary of the township, the remaining quarter-sections having their four sides of equal dimensions, viz., forty chains. To accomplish this result the meridians dividing the sections and quarter-sections were laid out parallel with that forming the eastern

boundary of the township—the (unsurveyed) meridian forming the eastern limit of the road allowance dividing the township in question from the next one west being assumed to be parallel to the surveyed line forming the western limit, and thus a solitary exception.

Lastly, the road allowances under the old system were 1 chain 50 links wide, instead of 1 chain only, as fixed under the system according to which lands are now surveyed in the North-West.*

LIMITS OF THE DIFFERENT SYSTEMS.

The operation of the system of survey in use previous to the season of 1881 is restricted to the area bounded as follows, viz.:—To the south—By the International Boundary Line. To the west—By the Second Principal Meridian, so far as the Eighth Correction Line; by said correction line, so far as the meridian between Ranges XXVIII. and XXIX. west

* It is estimated that the reduction of the width of the road allowances inaugurated under the modern system of survey, together with the diminution of the number of roads running east-and-west by three in each township, will result in a practical saving of 3,500,000 acres of lands to the public, besides the cost to municipalities of keeping in order so much unnecessary roadway, and to the Government of surveying three lines (amounting to eighteen miles) in every township. It is also calculated to discourage the growth of weeds often arising from the high-ways being of excessive width. A further advantage is involved in the decreased amount of fencing required by each settler. The legislation to effect such an important economic innovation was carried through Parliament by the Minister of the Interior during the session of 1881.

of the First Principal Meridian; by said meridian between Ranges XXVIII. and XXIX. so far as the Seventh Correction Line; by said correction line so far as the meridian between Ranges IV. and V. west of the First Principal Meridian; by said meridian between Ranges IV. and V. so far as the Sixth Correction Line; by the said correction line so far as the meridian between Ranges X. and XI. east of the First Principal Meridian; by the said meridian between Ranges X. and XI. so far as the Third Correction Line; by the said correction line so far as the meridian between Ranges XXX. and XXXI. east of the First Principal Meridian; and by said meridian between Ranges XXX. and XXXI. so far as the International Boundary Line.

The old system was also followed in the survey of the following lands west of the Second Principal Meridian, viz.:—Township 44, Range XXI.; Township 45, Ranges XXI., XXII., XXVI., XXVII., and XXVIII.; Townships 46 and 47, Ranges XXV., XXVI., XXVII., and XXVIII.; and Township 48, in Ranges XXIV. and XXV.

West of the Third Principal Meridian, the same system has been adopted for Townships 42 to 47 inclusive, Range I.; and for Townships 43 and 44, Ranges II. and III.

In some of the townships west of the Second Principal Meridian there are also road allowances of 1 chain 50 links on every township and sec-

tion line, though the deficiency or surplus resulting from the convergence or divergence of meridians is distributed as under the present system. In these townships all section lines are surveyed and posted as under the old system proper. This mixed system of survey is restricted to the following lands, all being west of the Second Principal Meridian:—Townships 1 and 2, Ranges I. to VIII. inclusive; Townships 19 to 30, Ranges I. to XII. inclusive; and Townships 27 to 30, Ranges XIII. to XVI. inclusive.

Wherever a "gore" occurs between two adjoining townships or ranges surveyed according to different systems, and when the number of the fractional township or range is the same as the adjoining one surveyed previously, such township or range is designated by its number followed by the letter "A," as for instance—"Township 19, A," for the gore between Townships 18 and 19 west of the Second Principal Meridian; and "Range XXI., A," for the gore between Ranges XX. and XXI. west of the Second Principal Meridian.

N.B.—The line between two parts of the country surveyed according to different systems is always marked on the ground in the same manner as a correction line; that is to say, mounds and posts are placed on both sides of the road allowance on such line, each row governing the position of the section and quarter-section corners on its own side. The road allowance in such case is always 1 chain 50 links.

PART III.

SYNOPSIS OF THE DOMINION LANDS LAW.

AUTHORITIES—HOMESTEADS, PRE-EMPTIONS, AND WOOD-LOTS—PURCHASE AND LEASE OF DOMINION LANDS—COLONIZATION FACILITIES—IMPORTANCE OF A TIMELY ENTRY—LEGAL POSITION OF "SQUATTERS"—CANCELLATION AND FORFEITURE—VARIOUS RESERVES—USEFUL HINTS TO LAND PROSPECTORS.

CANADIAN public lands in Manitoba and the North-West Territories may be acquired either by homesteading (as a free grant) or by purchase on the terms set forth in the official Regulations issued by the Department of the Interior. The information contained in this and subsequent pages has been summarized from the Consolidated Dominion Lands Act, 1879, and the amendments thereto of 1880 and 1881 (43 Vict., Chap. 26, and 44 Vict., Chap. 16); the Regulations for disposing of Dominion lands now in force; amended in accordance with the further legislation of 1883, 1884, 1885, 1886 and 1887.

HOMESTEADS, PRE-EMPTIONS, AND WOOD-LOTS.

A "homestead," which is limited in quantity to a farm of 160 acres, is a *free gift* from the Government at the expiration of three years' actual residence and cultivation; but a "pre-emption" entry, giving the right of priority of purchase at a future period, of an additional tract of 160 acres is also allowed to each homestead settler. He may occupy and cultivate the whole 320 acres for three years without any payment whatever except the entry fees, subject, however, to the fulfilment of the conditions attaching to the home-

stead grant.* Only the *even-numbered sections* of a township can be taken up as homesteads and pre-emptions. The price to be ultimately paid for pre-emptions, according to class, which may be found in the latest official Regulations, has only to be paid, without interest, after the right to claim patent for homestead has been earned. (See Appendix as to legislation of 1886.)

Settlers in townships where wood is scarce, or altogether wanting, are allowed to purchase "wood-lots," not exceeding twenty acres in size, out of timbered land in some adjacent locality reserved for the purpose. The price of wood-lots is five dollars per acre. (See also Regulations, for cutting timber under permit, in the Appendix.)

Settlers are strictly forbidden to dispose of wood from off their homesteads, pre-emptions, or wood-lots (previous to issue of patent) to saw-mill proprietors or

* A settler must commence residence within six months after entry, and may not absent himself from his homestead for a longer period than six months without special leave from the Minister of the Interior, to obtain which the application should set forth the grounds upon which such indulgence is asked. The affidavit of the applicant would lend weight to his representation of the circumstances.

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While he faithfully performs the homestead conditions, a settler enjoys the full rights of proprietorship, even previous to receiving patent. Non-fulfilment of conditions, however, in any particular renders the entries for homestead, pre-emption, and wood-lot subject to cancellation, the right to hold the two latter claims being entirely contingent on actual performance of homestead obligations. On cancellation, all improvements become forfeited to the Crown, and the ex-holder is prohibited from making a second homestead entry.

The title of all lands remains with the Crown till after the patent is issued. Unpatented lands are consequently not liable to seizure for debt, nor do they afford any security for obtaining credit or loans. In case a settler dies, the law allows his executors to fulfil the deceased's homestead obligations, that the estate may be secured to his heirs.

Any man over eighteen years, or any woman who is the sole head of a family, may take up a homestead. If the citizen of a foreign country, such settler is required to become a British subject, by naturalization, previous to issue of patent, which can be done under the law on completion of his or her three years' residence on the homestead.

No individual who has already received patent from the Crown for a homestead, is permitted to enter for such free grant of land a second time.

PURCHASE AND LEASE OF LANDS.

Lands may be purchased direct from the Government under the Regulations for the time being; but only in the *odd-numbered sections* of a township.

Ordinary purchases must be made at the office of

the Local Agent, and in lawful money of Canada, unless by military or police bounty-warrants, or scrip. Land offices being usually established in positions in advance of banking facilities, cheques cannot be accepted by the Agent without personal risk and inconvenience. Money-order offices not ordinarily existing in such localities, remittances by post should be sent in registered letters.

No individual person may purchase *of the Government*, except under the "Colonization" regulations, more than a single section (640 acres) of Dominion lands.

Pasturage, mineral, and timber lands may be leased from the Department of the Interior on terms set forth in departmental regulations. (See Appendix.)

COLONIZATION FACILITIES.

Special facilities are afforded for the cultivation or colonization of large tracts of land, a choice being offered of two distinct plans for acquiring such. (See Regulations.)

IMPORTANCE OF A LEGAL ENTRY.

All who seek to acquire Dominion lands in the North-West, whether by homesteading or purchase, should secure an entry* for the same, with the least possible delay, at the office of the Local Agent in whose district such lands may be, because the law provides that every entry-receipt or certificate issued by an Agent of Dominion Lands shall, unless such entry shall have been subsequently cancelled, entitle

* An office fee of ten dols. is charged for each entry-certificate. The entry must be personally applied for, except in the case of agents duly authorized upon the requisition of persons intending to become settlers.

the person to whom the same has been granted to take possession of the land described in it.

THE POSITION OF "SQUATTERS."

No entry can, of course, be made for lands still unsurveyed or (even if surveyed) not yet officially in the hands of a Local Agent for disposal. A settler therefore who makes improvements under such circumstances does so entirely at his own risk, and must look solely to actual continuous residence and practical cultivation as the grounds upon which to establish an equitable right to hold his claim. No time should be lost by such a settler, however, in asserting his claim at the earliest moment when such can effectually be done.

A settler who has taken up land in advance of the surveys* should keep a bright look-out for the arrival, sooner or later, of the surveyors in his locality. In addition to furnishing all necessary verbal information, he should be particular to make before the Dominion Land Surveyor at the head of the party an affidavit after the following form, to be forwarded to Ottawa with the other official returns of the survey:—

* Such settler would act wisely in driving in pickets to mark the boundaries of the land he desires to hold as a homestead. These boundaries should be laid off east-and-west and north-and-south, as near as may be, a distance of 40 chains (half a mile) on each side. Upon every picket the claimant should cut in his name in readable characters.

STATUTORY DECLARATION OF OCCUPATION.

I, _____ formerly of _____
in the _____ solemnly declare:—

That I first entered into occupation of and began continuous residence upon the _____
quarter of Section _____ in Township No. _____ Range _____
on the _____ day of _____ 18__

That I have also cultivated the said quarter-section to the extent each season, since that date, of _____

That I am not aware of any other claimant to the said quarter section.

DECLARED before me this _____

day of _____

188__

(Signature.)

} Signature

D. L. S.

In the event of a dispute between two or more squatters as to the right to hold lands taken up in advance of the surveys, the law declares that the homestead right shall belong to him who made the first settlement on the land in question. In cases, however, where it is shown that the contending parties have each made valuable improvements on the disputed claim, the Minister of the Interior has power, on the survey of the township in which the lands are situate taking place, to order a division of the same so as to preserve to the rival claimants, so far as practicable, their own several improvements; and he has authority further to direct that whatever the land thus apportioned to each such claimant may be deficient of the conventional area of a homestead (160 acres) may be made up to him out of unoccupied quarter-sections adjoining.

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No claim for a homestead entry upon odd-numbered sections, or upon Hudson's Bay Company, School, or Indian lands, has the least chance of being admitted.

CANCELLATION AND FORFEITURE.

The following paragraphs embody the spirit of the law in regard to cancellation of entries for homesteads, for non-fulfilment of conditions:—

In case it is proved to the satisfaction of the Minister of the Interior that the settler has voluntarily relinquished his claim, or has been absent from the land entered by him for more than six months in any one year without leave of absence from the Minister of the Interior, then the right to such land shall be liable to forfeiture, and may be cancelled by the said Minister, and the settler so relinquishing or abandoning his claim shall not, except in special cases in the discretion of the Minister, be permitted to make a second entry.

The Minister of the Interior may at any time order an inspection of any homestead or homesteads in reference to which there may be reason to believe the foregoing provisions, as regards settlement and cultivation, have not been or are not being carried out, and may, on report of the facts, cancel the entry of such homestead or homesteads.

And in the case of a cancelled homestead, with or without improvements thereon, the same shall not be considered as of right open for fresh entry, but may be held for sale of the land and of the improvements, or of the improvements thereon, in connection with a fresh homestead entry thereon, at the discretion of the Minister of the Interior.

Forms of application for the cancellation of entries respecting which the homestead conditions have not been fulfilled may be obtained of any Local Agent. Legal proofs (*i.e.*, the affidavit of the applicant, supported by those of two credible witnesses) must accompany application. On the requisite documents being filed with him, the Agent gives the party concerned notice to appear, personally or by representative, at the Land Office within thirty days, to disprove the allegations in the affidavits, or otherwise show

cause why his entry should not be cancelled. At the end of that period the matter is referred to superior authority for decision.

The law contains necessary provisions for the annulling of entries or patents issued erroneously, illegally, or through the perpetration of fraud

VARIOUS RESERVES.

Hudson's Bay Lands.—According to Article V. of the terms and conditions in the deed of surrender from the Hudson's Bay Company to the Canadian Government of their claims upon the lands of the North-West, the Company are allowed one-twentieth of all lands surveyed into townships within what is designated as the "Fertile Belt." This apportionment has been fulfilled by setting apart two entire sections in every fifth township, and one section and three-fourths of a section in all other townships, within the territory referred to. Thus, in every township numbered 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, and so on, in regular succession, northerly from the International Boundary, the whole of Sections 8 and 26 are so apportioned; but, in all townships not so numbered, the lands set apart for the Company are the whole of Section 8, and the south half and the north-west quarter of Section 26. These lands may be purchased from the Company on easy terms.

School Lands.—The Government, under the authority of Parliament, has appropriated Sections 11 and 29 in every township as an endowment in aid of public education. These "School Lands," as they are commonly called, are held by the Minister of the Interior, in trust, for the purposes of their appropriation. From time to time they will be placed in the market at an upset price, and sold at auction.

The Settlement Belts.—Certain lands lying within a distance of two miles on either side of the Red and Assiniboine Rivers, within the Province of Manitoba, and known as the "Settlement Belts"* were reserved from general disposal on Canada assuming the government of the country. Subsequently an additional two miles was set apart to satisfy a claim for "hay privilege." The lands are nearly all now patented to the occupants settled previous to the transfer, or to their assigns.

Half-breed Lands.—In fulfilment of the terms upon which Manitoba became a Province of the Dominion, 1,400,000 acres of land in Manitoba were reserved for the children of the half-breed heads of families, in extinguishment of any title they might set up by virtue of their partial Indian descent. This reserve has now been distributed in allotments of 240 acres to each claimant in the various parishes. Such claims may be purchased of the original grantees, or of any person to whom they have assigned their rights.

Canadian Pacific Railway Lands.—The Canadian Pacific Railway Company have been granted all the lands contained within the odd-numbered sections of townships lying within twenty-four miles on either side of the line. These may be purchased on liberal terms from the Company.

Miscellaneous.—Under parliamentary authority, various reserves have been made for the use of the Indians and of the Mounted Police, and for the occupation, in communities, of special classes of immi-

* Other "settlement" claims—situate at St. Laurent and Oak Point (on Lake Manitoba), Westbourne, Lorette, and Pointe de Chêne, in Manitoba; and on the Saskatchewan, at Prince Albert, N.W.T.—came into the same category.

grants, such as the Mennonites and Icelanders. The Government has power to set apart any lands required to aid the construction of railways; and also such as may be needed for town-sites, water-powers, grazing, mining, lumbering, or other special purposes.

USEFUL HINTS TO LAND PROSPECTORS.

Strangers going to the North-West should be extremely cautious in purchasing the "abandonment" of any one's homestead claim, as all assignments and transfers of the homestead right (until recommended for patent) are absolutely invalid, though, so far as the party assigning is concerned, such assignment may be deemed by the Dominion Lands authorities as evidence of voluntary abandonment.

Any person, however, whose homestead has been recommended by the Local Agent for letters patent (proofs of fulfilment of conditions having, of course, been filed with him), may legally convey, assign, and transfer his right, title, and interest therein. There is a book kept in the Department of the Interior for the registration, at the option of the parties interested, on payment of a fee of two dollars, of any such assignment of legally assignable rights (proof of which must accompany the application to register); and the law holds every assignment so registered as valid against any other assignment unregistered or subsequently registered, even if previously made. Every assignment must, for the purposes of registration, be entirely unconditional.

Bounty land warrants, whether issued to men who have served in the North-West Mounted Police or in the militia force formerly performing garrison duty in Manitoba, are accepted in payment for any Dominion

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lands to the extent of the value they represent, viz., the equivalent of 160 acres at one dollar per acre.*

Land scrip, whether that issued to half-breed heads of families or of the kind granted to "old settlers" in the Settlement Belts to extinguish certain claims, is of the same value as cash to the *bearer*, in any purchase of Dominion lands, for the amount represented on its face.

Intending settlers should understand that the privilege of homestead and pre-emption entry can be exercised only in respect of surveyed agricultural lands. No person is entitled to such entry for land specially valuable for its timber or hay, or for land on which there is a stone or marble quarry, or coal, or other mineral of commercial value; nor yet for land whereon there is water power suitable for driving machinery, or which, by reason of its position—such as being the shore of an important harbour, a bridge site or canal site or an actual or prospective railway terminus or station—it may be in the public interest to retain for other disposition.

Land Prospectors will act wisely in making sure that the land they propose to enter for is not already claimed in any way by a prior occupant. As a general rule, it will be found safer to take up land to which no legal or equitable claim is likely to be asserted than to go into disputed possession of a superior location. In the one case, the settler can confidently proceed with his improvements; in the other, he will be hindered by the delay and uncertainty involved in obtaining a decision.

* The right to transfer the right, title, and interest in homestead, as mentioned above, is contingent not only on the recommendation of the Local Agent for patent, but that such recommendation be signed by the Dominion Lands Commissioner or some officer acting for him.

Purchasers of land already patented in Manitoba and the North-West Territories should never pay any portion of the price agreed upon without satisfying themselves, by obtaining an abstract of title from the Registry Office for the registration district in which the lands are situate, that no agreements, mortgages, judgments, or other incumbrances are recorded against it; also, that no arrears of taxes are due upon such property. It should also be remembered that, as the law attaches the greatest possible importance to priority of registration, no delay should be allowed to intervene between the signing of a deed and seeing that it is duly registered.

Persons travelling in the North-West are required to be particularly careful to extinguish their camp fires before leaving them, so that the destructive consequences of a prairie fire may be prevented. Both in Manitoba and the Territories legislation has provided adequate penalties for the punishment of criminal negligence in this respect. Should it happen, however, that a party of Prospectors are threatened by a prairie fire approaching them, and no other means of escape are available, the danger may be effectually overcome by setting fire to the prairie to leeward of the party, and moving the travellers, with their outfit, on to the ground thus burnt over.*

In case of Prospectors losing their animals while in camp in the summer time, it would be well to remember that oxen and horses invariably graze to windward, in order to avoid the flies as much as possible.

When calculating itinerary distances on the map, it is only necessary to remember that a township is about

* There is a saving clause granting exemption from penalty to persons obliged so to act in cases of emergency.

six miles square ; by multiplying the number of townships to be passed over by six a fair idea of the distance to be travelled may be arrived at.

Land hunters who fail at first to find locations to suit them should push further west, to obtain a more extensive choice. It will often happen, however, that, on their return journey, they will be surprised to find contented families and growing crops upon the very farms that they themselves rejected as unworthy of their selection only a few weeks previous.

Lastly, manly Prospectors will not feel discouraged if they should be bitten by a mosquito, or be teased by a fly, during sultry weather. Experience shows that a "tender-foot," as a new arrival in the North-West is called, invariably attracts the largest share of the attention of these pests, which it is comforting to know disappear as the settlement and cultivation of the country progress.



APPENDIX.

—0—

HOMESTEAD CONDITIONS.

Clause 38 of the Dominion Lands Act, and its various sub-clauses, specify the conditions to be fulfilled in order to entitle the applicant to receive a patent for his homestead and pre-emption. The following sub-clause was added thereto during the session of 1886 :—

7. Any person claiming a patent under a homestead entry or under a homestead and pre-emption entry shall also be entitled thereto upon proving to the satisfaction of the Commissioner of Dominion Lands or the Dominion Lands Board :—

(a.) That he perfected his homestead entry by commencing the cultivation of the homestead within six months from the date of his homestead entry, or, if the entry was obtained on or after the first day of September in any year, before the first day of June following;

(b.) That within the first year after the date of his homestead entry he broke and prepared for crop not less than five acres of his homestead quarter section;

(c.) That within the second year he cropped the said five acres, and broke and prepared for crop not less than ten acres in addition, making not less than fifteen acres in all;

(d.) That he erected a habitable house upon his homestead before the expiration of the second year after his homestead entry, and has *bona fide* resided therein and has cultivated the land for three years next prior to the date of his application for his patent;

(e.) That at the commencement of the third year after the date of his homestead entry, or previously, he commenced the residence on his homestead required by the next preceding paragraph of this sub-clause.

8. Every person who has obtained a homestead entry, and who purposes to apply for a patent for such homestead, shall give six months' notice in writing to the Commissioner of Dominion Lands of his intention to make such application, and shall produce evidence to the officer who is authorized to receive the application, that such notice has been duly given.

PECUNIARY AID TO SETTLERS.

The following is the law governing the granting of pecuniary assistance to settlers upon the security of their homesteads :—

44. If any person or company shall be desirous of assisting by advances in money intending settlers to place themselves on homestead lands in Manitoba or the North-West Territories, and of securing such advances, such person or company may make application to the Minister of the Interior, stating the plan or project intended to be acted upon, the steps to be taken in furtherance thereof, and the amount to be advanced to such settlers; and the Minister of the Interior may sanction and authorize such plan or project, or refuse his sanction and authority thereto;

(a.) If such plan or project be so sanctioned, and such person or company shall thereupon place any settler upon a homestead, a statement of the expense incurred by such person or company in paying the actual *bona fide* cost of the passage and of providing for the subsistence of such settler and his family, of erecting buildings on his homestead (to which purpose at least one-half of the advance made shall be devoted), and of providing horses, cattle, farm implements and seed grain for him, together with an amount in money sufficient to cover the interest on the amount advanced for a time to be agreed

upon, to enable such settler to obtain a return from the cultivation of such homestead, shall be furnished to him, and upon his approval thereof, shall be submitted with proper vouchers in support thereof to the local agent, who shall examine and verify the same both by such vouchers and by an examination of such settler, and of such person or company, or their representative; and shall certify the result of such verification by writing upon such statement signed by him, and thereupon such settler may make and execute an acknowledgement in writing of the amount so advanced to him, and may by such writing create a charge upon such homestead for the amount of such advance, not exceeding the sum of six hundred dollars, and for the interest thereon, at a rate not exceeding eight per cent. per annum.

(b.) Such acknowledgment and charge shall be in the form of Schedule L, hereto appended, and a duplicate thereof shall be deposited with the local agent, and thereafter the holder of such charge shall have the right to enforce payment of the amount so advanced and of the interest thereon by ordinary legal proceedings; provided always, that the time to be fixed for the payment of the first instalment of interest upon such advance shall not be earlier than the first day of November in any year, nor shall it be within less than two years from the establishment of such settler upon such homestead; and provided also, that such settler shall not be bound to pay the capital of such advance or any part thereof within a less period than five years from the date of his establishment upon such homestead;

(c.) Upon such acknowledgment and charge being duly executed and duly registered in the Registry Office for the Territorial Division in which such homestead shall be situated, the same shall constitute and be and remain a first charge upon such homestead after the issue of the patent or certificate of patent for such homestead, until duly satisfied and extinguished according to law.

(d.) If such settler shall not perform the conditions of settlement required to entitle him to a patent for such homestead within the time and in the manner provided by the Dominion Lands Act, and shall thereby forfeit his right to obtain a patent, the

holder of the charge created thereon may apply to the Minister of the Interior for a patent of such homestead, and upon establishing the facts to the satisfaction of the Minister shall receive a patent in his name therefor; and such patentee shall be bound to place a *bond fide* settler on such homestead by the sale thereof to such settler or otherwise within two years from the date of such patent, and in default of so doing within the said period shall be bound and obliged on demand to sell the said homestead to any person willing to become a *bond fide* settler thereon for such sum of money as shall be sufficient to pay the amount of such charge and interest, and the expenses incurred by the patentee in obtaining such patent and in retaining the homestead, on pain, in case of refusal, of an absolute forfeiture of the said property and of all claims thereon and of the patent or other title thereto. But if the settler has acquired a right to receive a patent for the land so charged and does not apply for the issue of the same, the holder of such charge may obtain such patent, or certificate for patent, in the name of the person entitled to receive the same or of his legal representatives, and thereafter the said charge shall become a statutory mortgage on such homestead.

FORM L.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT AND CHARGE.

I, the undersigned, A. B., holding as a homestead the quarter of Section Township Range West of meridian, hereby acknowledge to have received from C. D. as an advance, under the provisions of the Dominion Lands Act, in aid of my establishment upon the said homestead, the sum of dollars, as shown by the statement thereof, as hereto annexed, certified by the Local Land Agent of the Government of Canada, which sum of money I undertake to pay to the said C. D., his representatives or assigns, within years from the date hereof with interest thereon at the rate of

per cent. per annum, payable half-yearly, on the first days of and in

each year, the first instalment whereof will become due on the day of next, and as security for such payments, I hereby create a first mortgage and charge upon the said homestead according to the provisions of the said Act.

And I, E. F., the wife of the said A. B., hereby bar and relinquish my right of dower upon the said homestead in favor of the said C. D.

In witness whereof, the parties hereto have executed these presents in duplicate this day of

CORRESPONDENCE WITH OFFICIALS.

Observance of the following hints for conducting correspondence with officers connected with the Department of the Interior will save time and trouble to the official staff, facilitate the submission of applications for decision, and, consequently, tend to diminish the period in which replies may be looked for:—

1. Do not address letters on official business by name to the Minister, or any one else connected with the Department, as letters so personally addressed may be deemed private correspondence, and, in the possible absence of the person to whom they are directed, remain unopened till his return.

2. All letters to the authorities at Ottawa on land matters should be addressed, in a plain hand, to

*The Secretary
Department of the Interior,
Ottawa.*

No stamp is required for letters directed to the head office at Ottawa, such communications being "free."

3. In correspondence with any of the outside Offices, a letter should be addressed as follows:

The Dominion Lands

Commissioner,

Winnipeg.

Three
cent
Stamp

The Local Agent,

Dominion Lands Office,

.....

Three
cent
Stamp

In these cases the ordinary postage rules apply.

4. Write in a concise and courteous manner, upon foolscap paper, on one side of the paper only, leaving a margin at least an inch on the left hand side.

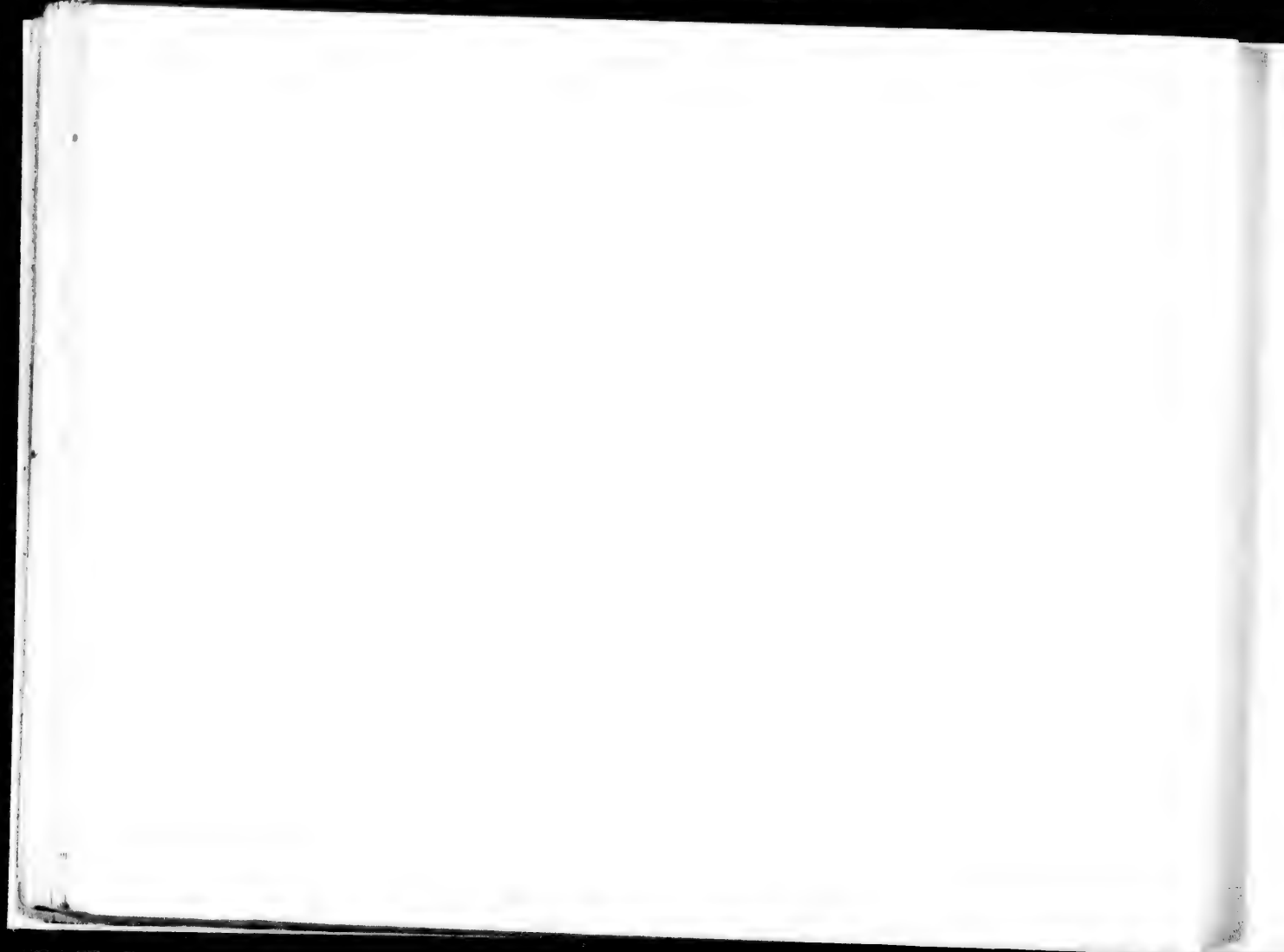
5. In the right-hand top corner of the first page write distinctly the official name of the post office to which a reply is to be addressed, together with the date of your letter. If the matter occupies more than one page, see that the pages are numbered; and be sure that your signature is legible.

6. Never deal with more than one subject in a single communication; but write a separate letter for each.

7. On receiving a reply, if you respond to it, do not fail to quote the reference number of the official file, which you will observe in the left hand top corner of the first page, (i. e.), at the head of your letter put—In reply to No.

8. Keep copies of all your correspondence with the Department or Local Offices.

9. All remittances to pay for Dominion lands should be made in lawful money of Canada, by registered letter. A Dominion Lands Officer is not bound to accept any one's cheque.



Re

XII

Diagram №1

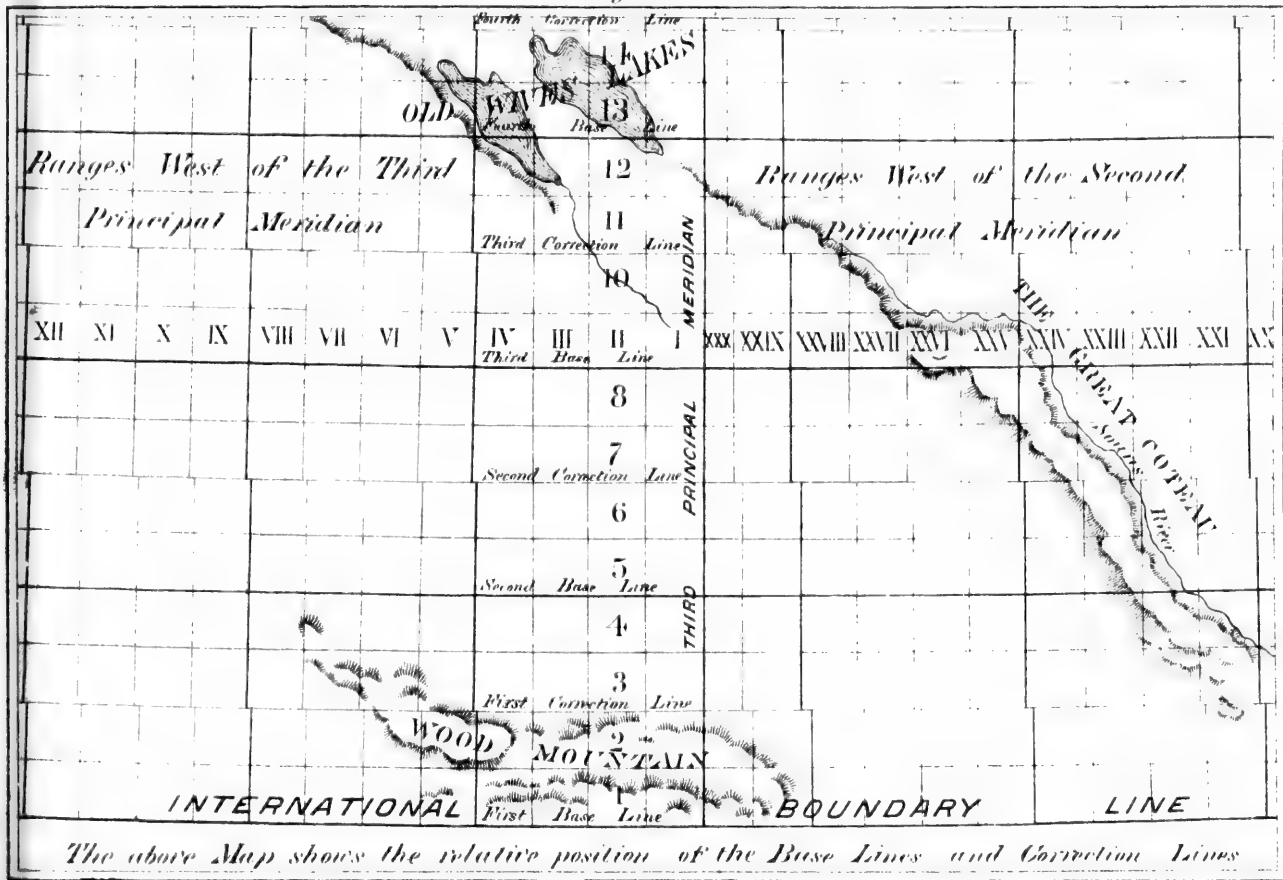
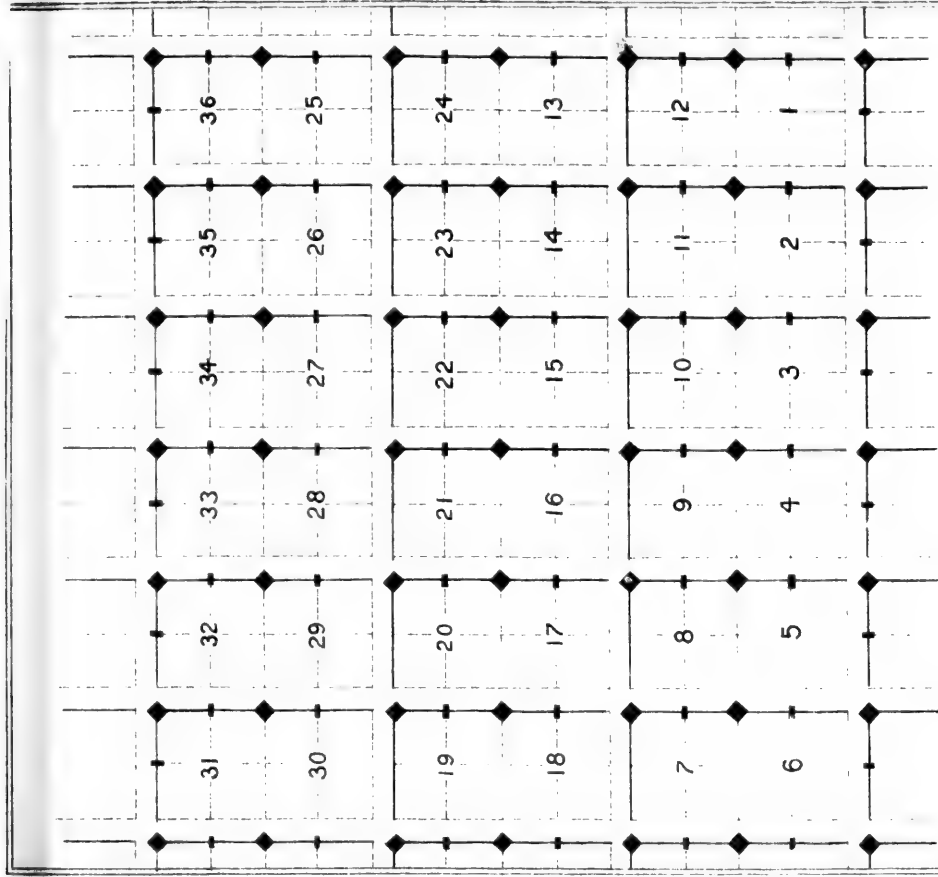




Diagram N^o II.



A Township,

as surveyed under the present system.

The dark lines show all lines marked on the ground, with position of posts.

N.B. Road allowances are One Chain wide.

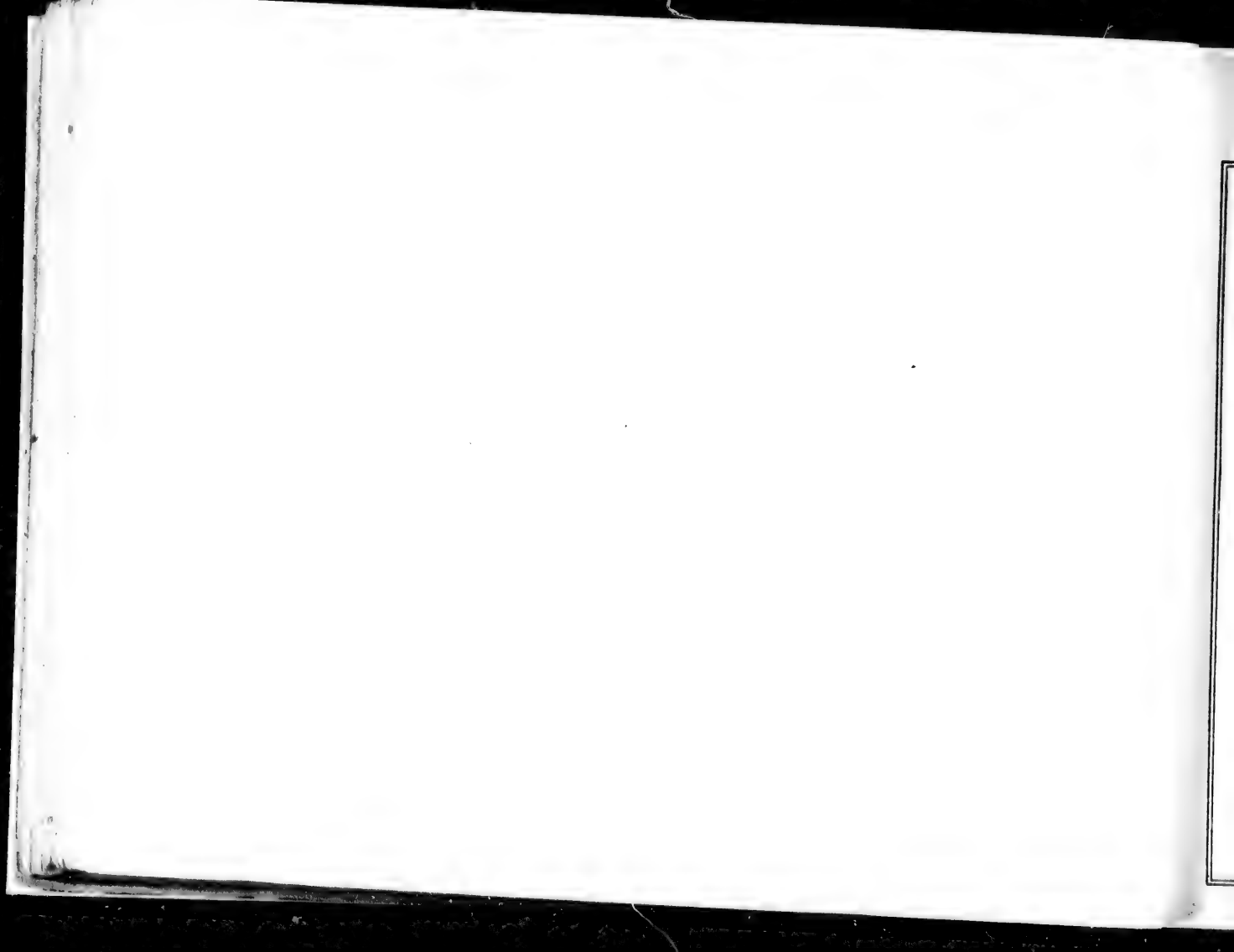
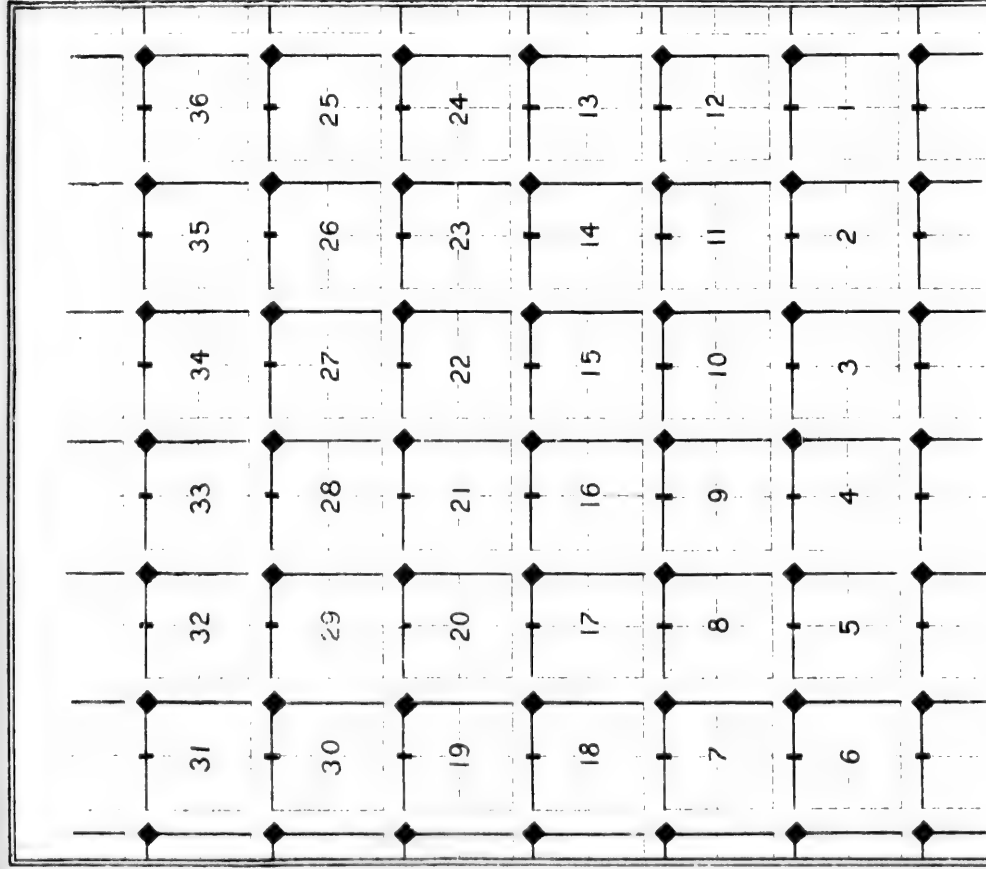


Diagram No III.



A Township

as surveyed under the old system.

The dark lines show all lines marked on the ground, with position of posts.

N.B. Road allowances are 1 Ch'n 50 Lks wide.



Diagram N^o IV



Fig 1 Quarter Section Post Fig 2 Section Post Fig 3 Stone Corner

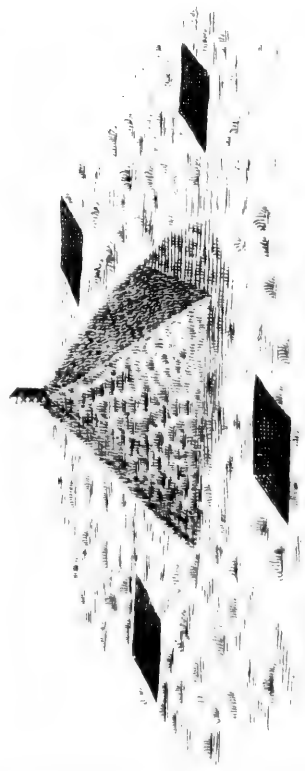


Fig 4 Earth Mound and Post.

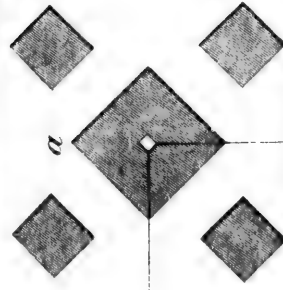


Fig 5 Post in Mound Fig 6 Stone Mound Fig 7 Witness Mound.

Fig. 1

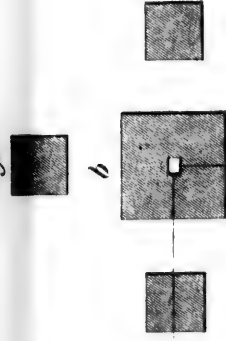
Fig. 2

Fig. 1



Plan of
Section Corner Mound,
(on Ordinary Lines)

Fig. 2



Plan of
Section Corner Mound,
(on Correction Lines)

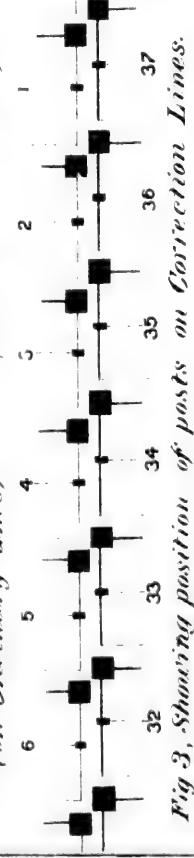


Fig. 3, Showing position of posts on Correction Lines.

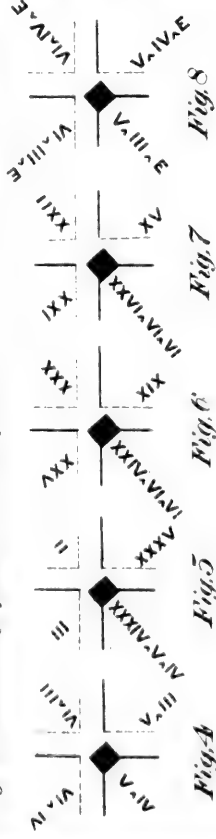


Fig. 4

Fig. 5

Fig. 6

Fig. 7

Fig. 8

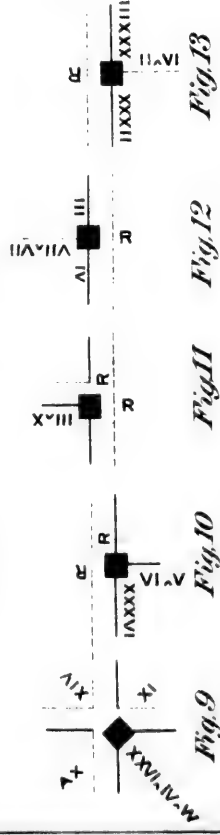


Fig. 9

Fig. 10

Fig. 11

Fig. 12

Fig. 13

The above afford illustrations of the method of marking the posts.

See Page 8.

Township

Range

Township

Range

Township		Range				
31	32	33	34	35	36	
SCHOOL 29 LANDS	28		27	H.B.C. 26 LANDS	25	
19	20	21	22	23	24	
18	17	16	15	14	13	
7	H.B.C. 8 LANDS	9	10	SCHOOL 11 LANDS	12	
6	5	4	3	2		

Township		Range				
31	32	33	34	35	36	
SCHOOL 29 LANDS	28		27	H.B.C. 26 LANDS	25	
19	20	21	22	23	24	
18	17	16	15	14	13	
7	H.B.C. 8 LANDS	9	10	SCHOOL 11 LANDS	12	
6	5	4	3	2		

Township		Range				
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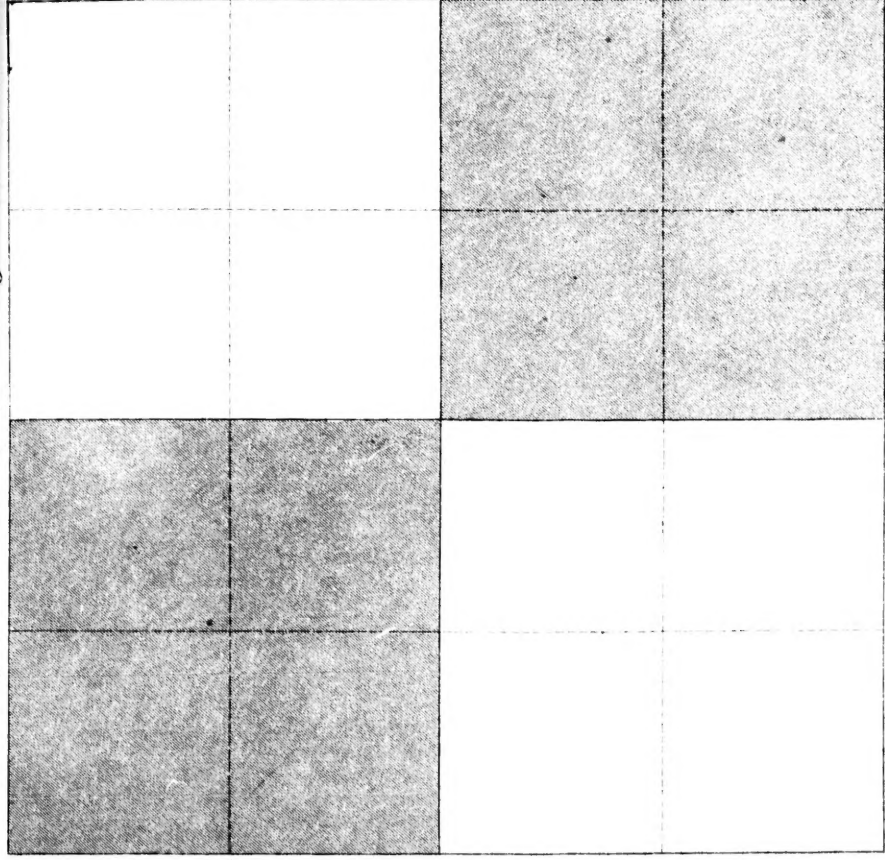
Township		Range				
31	32	33	34	35	36	
SCHOOL 29 LANDS	28		27	H.B.C. 26 LANDS	25	
19	20	21	22	23	24	
18	17	16	15	14	13	
7	H.B.C. 8 LANDS	9	10	SCHOOL 11 LANDS	12	
6	5	4	3	2		

Township

Range

Township

Range



N.B. — The above sections can be numbered as required.

